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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 06764 122247Z

20
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 SY-05 ACDA-10 /094 W
---------- 114189
R 192200Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0269

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 6764

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, OVIP (HELMS, JESSE A.)
SUBJ: SENATOR HELMS ON U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHILE
AND OTHER MATTERS

REF: SANTIAGO 6624

1. SENATOR JESSE HELMS AND PARTY WERE IN SANTIAGO JULY 7
TO 9 AS SCHEDULED, AND CARRIED OUT PROGRAM ALONG LINES
INDICATED REFTEL.

2. MAJOR INTEREST CENTERED ON THE SENATOR'S STATEMENT WITH
RESPECT TO FUTURE U.S. MILITARY AID TO CHILE.AS QUOTED IN
LEADING DAILY EL MERCURIO, THE SENATOR PROPOSED A "COUNTER-
AMENDMENT" TO THE KENNEDY AMENDMENT PROHIBITING MILITARY
ASSISTANCE TO CHILE; SENATOR KENNEDY WAS INDIGNANT, SINCE THE
SENATE DISCUSSIONS NECESSARY TO RECONCILE THE TWO AMENDMENTS
GAVE CHILE THE TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE CONTRACTS FOR THE
REST OF THE YEAR. AS A RESULT, THE KENNEDY AMENDMENT WOULD
HAVE ONLY SLIGHT EFFECT.

3. SENATOR HELMS CONTINUED THAT HE HAD REACHED A GENTLEMAN'S
AGREEMENT WITH SENATORS HUMPHREY AND CASE TO RESUME MILITARY
AID TO CHILE IN THE NEXT ANNUAL BUDGET. SENATOR HELMS MADE
SAME POINT TO AMBASSADOR BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM SANTIAGO.

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 06764 122247Z

4. OTHER COMMENTS MADE BY SENATOR STRESSED NEED FOR

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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ACCURATE INFORMATION REGARDING CHILE; GENERALLY PRAISED GOC
AND ITS LEADERS; AND INDICATED SUPPORT FOR RONALD REAGAN
AND HIS IDEAS.

5. IT WAS CLEAR FROM PRESS REACTION THAT OFFICIAL SOURCES
WERE PLEASED WITH HELMS VISIT AND HIS SYMPATHETIC APPROACH.
THEY SIMILARLY APPRECIATED VISIT OF SOME 150 CUBAN EXILE
DOCTORS, WHO WITH THEIR SPOUSES, CAME TO SANTIAGO LAST WEEK
FOR A VISIT OF SEVERAL DAYS, AFTER A MEDICAL CONVENTION IN
MIAMI.
POPPER

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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